recommends implementation of Peripheral Expressways comprising Eastern and Western Peripheral Expressway on priority basis on first phase besides other radiating roads and National Highways. Consensus on construction of Peripheral Expressway has been arrived at.

(b) and (c) The length comprising both Peripheral Expressways (Eastern and Western) is about 269 Km. As per preliminary estimates, the cost of the proejct including cost of land acquisition is Rs. 4120.00 crore. The project is to be executed on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. The funds for viability gap, if required, would be provided by the Union Government. The cost of land acquisition presently assessed, as Rs. 1307.00 crore is to be shared by the Governments of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the ratio of 50:25:25.

(d) The project of Peripheral Expressway is scheduled for commencement by July 2006 and is likely to be completed by October 2010.

National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

510. SHRI C.RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the works on the stretch of the sanctioned National Highways falling in the various districts of Andhra Pradesh are likely to commence and be completed;

(b) whether the funds have since been allocated for the said projects;

(c) if so, quantum thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Forty two works sanctioned on various stretches of National Highways falling in various districts of Andhra Pradesh are already under progress and likely to be completed by March, 2007. In addition, there are eighteen sanctioned works, which are yet to be awarded.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 271.20 crore has been allocated for the said projects during 2005-06.

(d) Does not arise.

Strengthening of NH-52

511. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any project to construct a bridge over the river near district jail at Mangaldoi on NH-52 in Assam; and

(b) whether Government would consider the project to strengthen the NH-52 to be able to bear traffic intensity after the completion of Bogibil rail-cum-road bridge over Brahmaputra river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. Construction of a bridge near Mangaldoi on NH-52 has been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 4.24 crore.

(b) Yes, Sir. The stretch from Baihata Charali to Banderdewa is identified for four laning under National Highways Development Project (NHDP)-III for which preparation of Detailed Project-Reports (DPRs) has been taken up by National Highways Authority of India. The stretches from North Lakhimpur to Jonai and from Dirak to Rupai in Assam have been identified for widening to two lanes with paved shoulders under Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme-North East (SARDP-NE), which is already approved by the Government on 22.09.2005 for implementation. The work of widening to two lanes from Jonai to Dirak in Arunachal Pradesh has been approved by the Government for preparation of Detailed Project Reports under Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE. For these projects identified under SARDP-NE, Border Roads Organization (BRO) has been asked to prepare DPRs.

Revival of domestic shipping industry

512. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, of late many shipping companies in India are moving out of the country due to a high-tax shipping regime comprising of 12 different taxes/levies;